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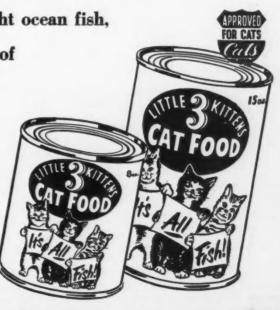
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The Readers Always Write



CATNIPPED CATS

Dear Editors:

I am enclosing a picture of three kittens in a catnip bed, and so a word about catnip. This is an herb cats seem to love. Although they do eat it, the rolling in it makes them seem even more playful. I wonder if there is any benefit derived from eating it?

The plant growing in the garden is pleasing to the eye if the clump is large enough to notice. The leaves are of a distinctive pattern.

Incidentally I believe the picture of the month in the March issue is worthy of the cover spot.

Helen Heaton

R.R. #1 Rifle, Colorado

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Dear Editors:

Just finished reading Guy Bogart's article in March Cats. I own a Longhair and also a parakeet. Because of my own carelessness the cat injured the bird. I failed to make certain the cage door was secure and Whitey flew out and onto the floor. The cat was in the room at the time and I heard the flutter of wings and came running in. I clapped my hands sharply and called out to the cat. She dropped the bird—confused and startled, herself.

We had had the bird for five years and the cat was two years old when this happened—but we do not hold it against the cat. She had not acted maliciously. She simply went for something that moved.

I am, however, not defending the people who allow their cats to do wanton hunting. I don't blame the cats—it is the owner who should be punished. I feel there should be a law to penalize owners where

pets are allowed to roam until their instincts result in damage to property and to other animals. There should also be legal measures to control promiscuous breeding which is a real problem.

At a recent cat show, I heard statistics given by a lecturing guest veterinarian to the effect that in the county of Westchester, New York, alone, 1000 stray cats are put to death each month. Such a state of affairs can hardly be considered civilized. If there were a law passed imposing a fine on any cat owner who neglects to care for his pet, it would discourage the unwanted kittens and their subsequent massacre and make people realize the desirability of spaying or neutering their pets.

In the final analysis, the place for a household pet is in the house, not on the street. If you want to breed your animal and are willing to take care of the kittens, that's fine and more power to you. If not, leave the kitten business to the catteries and to the professional breeders. Only in this way can we hope, in time, to eliminate the "homeless cat" problem.

I wonder if Guy Bogart has ever thought of contacting the ASPCA with the idea of bringing this Charney person to trial—if he has evidence that she has offered money to anyone for the purpose of poisoning cats. Fanatics are dangerous people. They are blind mentally.

As for myself, I can't help thinking: wouldn't it be the height of something-orother if a cat hater were haunted by a dream in which she found herself locked in a cage with a Bengal Tiger!

Analie Comstock

4112 170th St. Flushing, L. I., N. Y.

LAWS and/or LIFE

Dear Editors:

Do you know if there is any law that prohibits the using of a deadly poison in a residential area? We live in a small town but there are two elevators within a block of us. One of them is using a new poison that is swift and potent, and as we have learned, an agonizing death for any animal.

We, and the veterinarians at the University of Illinois, watched our Mei-Ling, a registered Seal Point die at three A.M. after they had done all they could to save her

I have gotten the name of the poison. It is Sodium Fluoroacetate and should your cat even break the skin of a rodent's carcass killed by it there is nothing that can be done.

We have five cats, not a cattery, but we are trying to perfect our breed each year. We can't keep the cats in for the rest of their lives and yet I live in terror that it will happen to another one.

I have been told it is unlawful to put out such a poison. Is this true, does anyone know? If there is any information you could give me, you can imagine how I



WITH WHICH IS COMBINED ALICE GRAYDON PHILLIPS'

OUR CATS

Publisher and Editor, Raymond D. Smith; Assistant Editor, Jean Laux; Contributing Editors. Ann Manley, Blanche Wolfram, E. A. Renaux, D.V.M.; Circulation Manager, Ross E. Smith.

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COVER

A May morning with our two Siamese sunning themselves on the patio and taking a polite interest in the skein of yarn we've put there for their amusement. A few simple things, but enough for Robert W. Young to use to put us in tune with this bright season of the year.

Photographer Young lives at 4518 Banner Drive, Long Beach, California. Readers will remember him for his April 1954 cover of a Domestic cat and

iron gate.

(CATS Magazine can not be responsible for unsolicited photographs, but we give thorough consideration to all received. Photos intended for cover use should be approximately 7½ by 10 inches in size, outstanding in theme, and of the highest photographic quality.)

would appreciate it. Our cats are not cats to us, they are part of the family and are treated as such. If I can save their lives, I certainly want to do it.

Mrs. Rae Blaemere

St. Joseph, Illinois

AS YE SOW

Dear Editors:

I think you are doing a fine job. I don't know of anything helpful to suggest except I would like to pass on a bit of advice for people who own Longhairs. To keep them from getting hair balls, I find that if you keep planters of grass growing in the house throughout the winter they will nibble at it and not retain the hair they swallow while washing.

I use rye seed and place the planters on a high window sill so the cat can not

My brown Tabby male is nine years old and in wonderful health. I think part of it is due to being able to get fresh greens all year.

Mrs. H. J. Johnson

Fort Madison, Iowa.

WITH JEZEBEL IN MEXICO

by Priscilla P. Ware

Our little Nash Rambler was loaded with three footlockers, typewriter, can of emergency gas, a water jug and one caged cat. As we drove across the International Bridge at Laredo I'm sure Jezebel claimed the distinction of being the first White Longhair cat to go through Mexican customs! Even the normal delays of customs were further delayed by the arrival of Jezebel. As the word got around officials, semi-officials and less distinctive tourists came to see this traveling cat.

"Gato" was the first new Spanish word we learned on the other side of the border. With my schoolbook knowledge of this language I corrected these commentators and informed them Jezebel was a "Gata." Perhaps Mexicans don't make a sex distinction in their cats, for either my accent or the impossibility of there being a "gata" always produced a shake of the head and much verbal dissention. After a few days of this I made the compromise when I heard a child exclaiming "Gatita!" And so Jezebel became "La Gatita."

By the time we reached Mexico City Jezebel had become very nonchalant about all the attention and flattery she was receiving. Her cage was a long oblong shape, with the top and four sides made of chicken wire so she could have plenty of light and air, and still not meander around the car and jump out on her own explorations. As the little Mexican children gathered around the car with their quick excited chatter, Jezebel would sit up very straight and pose, her white tail curled gracefully about her feet. Occasionally when we had a spell of long, hot driving she was too tired to greet her public so formally and would lie in the corner of her cage, swishing her tail slowly back and forth and peering out with half shut eyes. This meant she was not feeling sociable and the Mexicans seemed to sense her mood. Instead of the high, gay giggles as they watched, they would murmur in low, wary tones and draw further away from the car.

On the highway from Laredo to Monterey we had one of our most uncomfortable days. We were hot, tired and dirty, and when we looked back and saw Jezebel panting and completely exhausted we felt even more miserable. All the windows were open but the only breeze was hot, dusty and dry. As anxious as we were to make Monterey before dark we stopped to pop a half an aspirin down Jezebel's throat. This is not just a simple question of asking the cat to open her mouth while you drop the pill in. One of us had to hold her tightly, all four feet, so she wouldn't scratch, while the other one forced her jaws open. While Jezebel squirmed, fought and cried aloud, the aspirin was dropped down, and her mouth held shut until she swallowed it. Usually she could hold her breath longer than we could hold her

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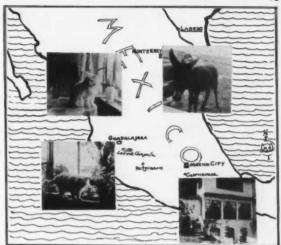
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Photos of Jezebel and Mexico by the Author.

mouth shut, and when we let go she'd spit out the aspirin. But we were more stubborn and finally got it down, and a little while later when we looked around Jezebel was properly knocked out, and sound asleep.

Although we'd had some refusals at motels in the states, no one in Mexico ever thought of denying Jezebel a place to sleep. Instead, we had trouble keeping Jezebel in and her admirers out. Every time our door opened in the pension in Mexico City, our cat would scoot out to do a little sightseeing on her own. We had to warn people, in our best English and worst Spanish, not to pet her, not to pick her up, and above all not to give her even a gentle shove with the foot. Jezebel has a phobia about this and if you walk too close to her will whirl around and give you a quick one-two with her paws, all claws extended for battle.

The fact is, Jezebel is temperamental. When we planned this trip to Mexico we had to make arrangements for all our animals: two dogs, two cats and a parrot. For the others we found kind friends and temporary vacation homes among our New Jersey neighbors. But when it came to our favorite cat everyone was very frank. There were polite, but firm refusals. Jezebel really has a lovely disposition, if you have the time to find it. Most people don't care to spend that much time on a cat. Our friends are like most people. Even our veterinarian would have nothing to do with her as a paying guest!

There was no other solution but to rearrange the back of our station wagon and take off with Jezebel. So, well-supplied with canned baby food, her favorite cans of mackerel and salmon, and a certificate from the vet saying she had all the necessary shots and was free from disease, we took off.

We were apprehensive about this safari with a cat. We were afraid Jezebel might get carsick. We'd had no time to prepare her by going on short trips. We pictured

her jumping out of the car, or running away as we moved in and out of motels. And for the first three days she did everything possible to make the trip impossible. She was a very unhappy cat and told us about it from our early 5:00 a.m. take-off, till our 4:00 p.m. quitting time. She meowed in every key and scale in feline repertoire. She fussed like a baby, and paced around her cage like a lioness. We didn't dare spoil her by letting her sit up front with us. She just had to cry it out. When she finally understood that this situation was going to continue, day after day, and that every night there would be another strange stop-over with wonderful new smells to sniff and corners to explore, she decided to adjust to this new life. Much better, I must admit, than we sometimes did!

In the states we argued about which motel to stop at. They all looked so new and expensive. Jezebel liked any of them. In Mexico we had no choice and took what came up on the horizon first. They were never new, nor expensive. Jezebel was still satisfied. We worried about driving up the mountains beyond Tamazunchale where the clouds and fog covered parts of the curving road. We complained about the ice water's not being pure enough to drink, or the food not being palatable. Jezebel ate her baby food and pattered softly on the tile floors, chasing fat Mexican bugs all night. She was content.

We rode around Mexico City frantically trying to find a place to sleep. We asked questions in bad Spanish of motorcycle cops who knew no English. We dodged bicycle riders and had several narrow escapes with cars at intersections before we discovered it's "the fustest with the mostest" that gets across. If you can drive in Mexico City (they say) you can drive anywhere in the world. And Jezebel slept trustingly through it all.

In Cuernavaca, Mexico City's weekend resort, we had a picturesque five-room

(Continued on page 21)

FEWLINES BOUT FELINES



APARTMENT CAT

The walls his jungle, The floor his plain. Never freedom Before or again.

The windows his bars To his prison dim; The chairs his rocks In his land so grim.

He watches the birds And the traffic below And listens to sounds As folks come and go.

He absorbs the life And the freedom outside, And longs to be part Of that world so wide.

But he's trapped there alone In that three-room flat, Til his people come home And say, "Hello, cat!"

-Liz Kollmorgen

BLACK MAGIC

Whether he's cat or pixic— How can, I ever tell? I found him one May morning Beside a wishing well; His emerald eyes, unwinking, Stared from an elfin face; His coat was black as midnight— A thing of guile—and grace!

"That one can conjure—watch him!"
So all the neighbors said,
"He'll put a spell upon you!"
How could I be afraid
Of such a tiny charmer?...
There has been witchery—
For now, beyond all question,
This cat possesses me!

-Isabel L. Walker

FOR CLEOPATRA

You twine yourself about a vase, Like a fluffy, golden wreath. You sit upon a pedestal, And scorn the world beneath.

Do you think you are a deity, Like your ancesters on the Nile? Do you think I worship you, As you sit up there in style?

I bring as to a pagan god, This bowl of fine-chopped liver. But I'm no worshipper, my cat. I'm just a friendly giver.

-Louina Van Norman

"Mother says that the cat lay on her bread one night and caused it to rise finely all around her."

"Somebody shut the cat's tail in the door just now and she made such a caterwaul as has driven two whole words out of my thought. I saw unspeakable things in the sky, and looming in the horizon of my mind; and now they are all reduced to a cat's tail."

—Thoreau—Journal, Dec. 25, 1856 (From "The Cat in Thoreau"—ms.— Gladys Bollman)

THE DAY'S BEST CREAM

The perfect moment comes
When I let go all musts that crowd the

and settle on a terrace chair to muse before the land in flower: Petunias and cosmos never blossomed care;

'Lillies toil not neither do they spin . . .'
Their petals, like butterflies, pass
in the sun's long beard upon the grass.

Matrisse, old cat, spends mornings here in ease. He now takes note of me, stretches his tawnv mein with green eyes narrowed in the sun and yawns inquiringly, "Are you not the one who seldom pauses to lick the day's best cream?"

—Priscilla Sanders

LINES TO A LADY CAT

To other folks she's just a cat, No more, no less, no matter; As common as an old straw hat, For all our prideful chatter.

But while we've harbored cats before, Most every one a lady, There never was or will be more, The equal of our Sadie.

For black is she as bottled ink, Or night in far Manhattan, With roguish eyes that glow and wink Like emeralds in satin.

She has her faults, but who has not?
Her failings, true, are legion;
She filches tidbits from the pot,
Her swains infest the region.

When she is in, she would be out, Or like as not, vice versa; It's "Let her in." or "Let her out." Till even Job would curse her.

But when at night around our flat From room to room she courses, Why then we're glad she's just a cat, And not a team of horses.

-Maurice J. Ronayne

ALLEY CAT

The buildings his jungle The streets his plain No comfort, security Now or again.

Some fish tails his dinner A crate his bed; He's never known A pat on the head.

He sees a cat On a window-sill, Fat, sleek, pampered, Having eaten its fill.

He is part of the life In his world so bare, But few know his presence, And fewer care.

So scrounge he must And hide he will, And admire the cat On the window-sill.

-Liz Kollmorgen

CAT ELYSIUM

(For one named Andrew Jackson Brown)

He has gone, inevitably, yet when sun patterns mark the floor he is there, black satin, eyes of emeralds, inscrutable, contemplating in the sun:

His old bones rest
beneath yellow roses in the garden
but his glowing self,
jewelled eyes, sun worshipping,
basks on celestial rugs.

—Priscilla Sanders

MY LITTLE CAT LIES SLEEPING

My little cat lies sleeping in a pool of sun. Across the rug she follows as the shadows run.

Smoothly clean and freshened, a curve of warmth and grace, she lies in quiet comfort with a sun-smile on her face.

I, too, would follow near that golden pool of sun and soothe my wounds in silence as the seasons run.

-Helen Rosina

THE NUTRITION OF THE CAT:

IV. Foods for Body-Building Nourishment-Proteins

by John E. Thompson

Proteins and minerals are the principal nutrients which supply body-building nourishment. Muscle tissue is composed chiefly of protein and water. Protein is a very complex chemical substance, but when it is digested, it is broken down into comparatively simple amino acids.

Each protein is made up of its own special combination of amino acids. A clever teacher of nutrition, whose name I cannot recall, described the complex nature of the protein as a paragraph in an article or book. Amino acids are like letters of the alphabet. In order to copy a paragraph exactly, it is necessary to use the same letters as made up the words in the original paragraph and to place them in the same order.

The amino acids resulting from the digestion of protein are used for the replacement of tissue constituents that have been degraded in life processes or for the formation of new tissue constituents in growth. For a rapidly growing kitten, the new tissue-building functions dom-inate the animal's need for amino acids. In the mature cat, the replacement functions will dominate, but there is still some new tissue building such as hair and claw growth.

Some twenty-odd amino acids are known. Of these, eight or ten are essential to the cat's diet. Exhaustive studies have never been made to determine exactly how much of each of the essential amino acids is required for the growth and maintenance of felines. The classical work of Dr. Rose and Dr. Almquist was done on other animals and humans. The most nearly applicable studies were made with dogs by Rose and Rice.1 By comparing the physiology of the cat with the physiology of the dog, it is rather safe to assume that the cat's requirements are

The eight essential amino acids required by all species (cat, man, rat, dog, chick) are: leucine, isoleucine, lysine, methionine, phenylalanine, threonine, tryptophan and valine. In addition, one or another of the animals needs histidine, arginine, glycine and glutamic acid for maximum growth. In the absence of specific knowledge of the cat's requirements for these nutrients, they should be provided in the diet.

Some of the amino acids can be manufactured in your cat's body by tearing apart other amino acids and using the chemical parts to build up new amino acids. The amino acids that can be built up in this way are called non-essential.

Some of the most recent work by Dr. A. A. Albanese and his co-workers2 now shows that it is extremely important for the amino acids to be in proper ratios to each other in the diet. These people were working with human babies. The nutritive

sina

requirements for babies should be quite close to the requirements of kittens except that kittens require a higher proportion

Dr. C. A. Elvehjem3 very wisely reminded a recent meeting of professional dieticians that discussions of the nutritional importance of amino acids should not overshadow the fact that we must use proteins in making up diets. We do not have a lot of little bottles of amino acids that we simply mix together in ideal proportions to suit our pets' needs.

Diets are made of foods. Foods contain proteins along with other components. These proteins are in turn made up of amino acids. As a practical matter, the only control we have over the amino acids that kitty gets lies in the careful selection

of his foods.

Cats have the highest protein requirement of any of the domestic animals and the suggested daily allowance of one authority4 is ten times the recommended daily allowance for humans. The cat recommendation is 10 grams per kilogram of body weight, for man it is 1 gram per kilogram. This means that an 8-pound growing cat should receive one and one-quarter ounces of pure protein each day in his diet.

Many foods are available to supply your cat's daily requirements of protein. Some are too costly to be practical even though they are good sources of high quality protein. Whole egg protein, for example, is considered one of the best by

most nutrition authorities.

A half-dozen hard boiled eggs will supply 36.6 grams of protein5 which is only a little less than the recommended daily allowance for an eight-pound growing cat. But fresh eggs cost the Thompson's 60¢ a dozen. It would not be very practical for us or for you to attempt to feed your pet 30¢ worth of eggs a day.

Cereal grains contain some proteins and are low in cost. Two difficulties arise. First, the cat does not have a big enough stomach to hold all the cereal he would have to eat in order to meet the recommended daily allowance of 10 grams of protein per kilogram of body weight. Secondly, the proteins of the cereal grains are deficient in lysine, one of the essential amino acids.

Meat and fish products are probably the best practical sources of protein for cat feeding. The quality of these proteins is generally excellent and the cost is reasonable if you choose carefully. In your neighborhood the prices and availability of the various types will vary.

Fresh and frozen meats are to be preferred to canned when available. The canned pet foods are convenient to store and to use. These must be supplemented

with some fresh foods, however,

Horsemeat is the old, reliable standby of many successful cat breeders. Its cost sometimes gets out of line. We have actual experience to show that cow meat, beef heart, beef or pork kidney or pork liver can be used with at least equal results. These meats are often available through your local butcher at lower prices than horsemeat and come to you as prepared for human food

You need not fear feeding your pet pork. Be assured that pork is equally digestible and often more nutritious, ounce for ounce, than other meats. We have a colony of over ten of our cats that have never eaten any other form of meat than pork. They grew well. They have been good breeders and nurse their kittens properly.

Meat meal, a packinghouse by-product, available in animal feed stores, is sometimes a good source of protein for cat feeding. It is usually standardized to contain 55% protein as well as many minerals. The actual composition and method of manufacture varies widely. It comes only in 50-pound and 100-pound bags as a rule, so would only be interesting to large breeders. Some lots are unpalatable so make sure you arrange with the dealer to take it back if it does not please your colony of felines.

One cup of meat meal soaked in three cups of hot water has a composition something near fresh lean meat. Try substituting such a mixture for about 1/4 of the fresh meat you usually feed to see if your pet likes it. Soaked meat meal spoils quickly, so do not keep it on hand more than a few hours after adding the

Soybean meal, also available in animal feed stores, may prove to be a very low cost substitute for a part of the meat in a cat's diet. We are conducting a series of experiments along these lines now. It is too early to say for sure. There is nothing to indicate that soybean meal, costing about 3¢ per pound, cannot make up at least 20% of the practical diet.

Soybean meal has risen to first place among the protein feeds used in farm animal rations. Much of it is used in the dry type dog and cat meals. The good quality dog and cat meals are quite suitable for cat feeding but they must be supplemented with fresh foods to get satisfactory reproduction and lactation.

Later in this series of articles we will venture to suggest some complete pussy cat menus that you may wish to try for yourself. If you have any suggestions for me to try, please send them to me at P.O. Box 2023, Chicago 9, Illinois. I will be glad to hear from you.

Some of the original nutrition articles and books I have referred to here are very interesting. If you are the studious type, you may want to look some of them up at the library. The little superscript numbers in the article correspond to the numbers of the references given on page



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SAGA OF POKEY

by Bert Tebbetts

This is the story of Pokey. Or is it? Perhaps it is the story of an unusual friendship. At any rate, I'd like to tell you about it.

Sixteen years ago last spring twin Blue Cream Longhair kittens were born in our cattery to my Cream champion. We then lived in East Rockaway, Long Island. About a month before Christmas a charming couple from Brooklyn, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Appel, came to our home to see our cat children. They weren't looking for just ANY kitten-it had to be a very 'special" one. Mr. and Mrs. Appel, childless, but definitely cat lovers, finally selected Pokey. She was a lovely kitten with huge eyes and a sweet expression, and had been really named "Polka Dot" due to a strategically placed spot of cream in a field of blue. She immediately moved into the Appel hearts and home.

Come the first Christmas, a few weeks later. I received a frantic call from Helen Appel, telling me that Pokey was very ill what should she do? It was plain that I could not be of any help by long distance, so told her to rush to a good veterinarian. She did, and the doctor soon found that the cause of this first bad moment was Pokev's indulging in too many Christmas decorations-taken internally! She was fine in a few days.

Each Christmas for the next fourteen years came the lovely Christmas cardalways with a charming picture of Pokey, accompanied by clever inscriptions. Last year the card was unusually appealing.

During the years, due to many amusing and interesting letters from Helen, always accompanied by pictures and stories of Pokey, we became fast friends, although we saw each other only once-when Pokey was purchased. I became increasing fond of Helen, and years ago promised her a fine kitten if and when the inevitable happened. But Pokey flourished as the 'green bay tree" with no illness of any

Then, last year, I received a heartbroken letter from Helen, telling me that Pokey had developed a "lump". Although she seemed not to be in pain, the lump was growing. Considering Pokey's advanced age and her anti-social tendencies, I didn't know what to advise. However, as the lump grew, and the Appel's apprehension along with it, they accidentally stumbled onto a veterinarian, not only skilled, but with a great heart for little cats and woebegone people. He operated with no ill effects except for the agony undergone by the two "parents" who accompanied Pokey to Connecticut for the operation, staying at a tourist court during the time Pokey was hospitalized.

I received regular bulletins and was so happy for them that little Pokey was doing well. For months she was fine-then the discovery that the menace had spread to

a new spot, and a second operation was necessary. This one, too, was performed satisfactorily, and a reprieve resulted.

The day after Christmas, early in the morning, I received a phone call from the Appels. Neither Helen nor Louis could talk coherently, but I knew that Pokey had curled up and purred her way to Cat Heaven the previous night. She had stayed with her beloved family for one last Christmas, and then the tired little old lady had quietly gone to sleep.

However, there is a happy ending to this story. Doing my best to comfort Helen and Lou, and telling them how fortunate they were to have had her so long, I reiterated my promise to give them a new baby. I selected from twelve cat babies a wide-eved son of my Dear David. He was a most affectionate five-monthold little Blue boy, as extroverted as Pokey was an introvert—just the one to send them.

But there the trouble began! One airline wouldn't take the kit. Another said they would, if we could get him from New Orleans to Miami, and then, by reservation only. However, they would not recommend that I send him that way, as he would have to ride in the freight section of the plane which would be bitter cold. S-o-o-o, I contacted Railway Express, only to have them say that it would take three or four days to Brooklyn!

Meanwhile, I kept Helen and Lou posted on all these complications, and they, of course, were despairing over every moment that delayed them in getting their little consolation. Finally, I arranged a regular apartment in a large fruit crate, complete with everything "hizzoner" would need for the trip. I sent an "airmail special" to the Appels, telling them when to expect him and what procedure to follow. I put five cans of food with a can opener and dishes in a plastic bag, complete with instructions for care and feeding en route, and tied it all to the outside of the shipping crate.

Then, the day of shipment, came another phone call from Lou! He said, "I know you'll think we're crazy, but we can't bear to think of the little fellow being three days in a baggage car, so I'm flying down tomorrow to pick him up."

When I caught my breath, we completed arrangements for meeting at the airport, except for details on how to recognize each other! That part was almost a story in itself. But we finally made connections, and Lou and Windibank Mejum met each other. It was mutual love at first sight. Lou, who had never been South before, caught the next plane back to New York with not a glimpse of our fabulous New Orleans except the airport!

So it is a happy ending. The Appels are happy; it is indeed happy for Mejum, and doubly happy for the writer. What breeder wouldn't be happy to know her kits are that much beloved?

And Helen and Lou have promised to come down for a visit, bringing Mejum, of course.

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The cat shows held at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art in December and at the Crespi Galleries in New York in February were not listed in CATS Magazine's show calendar, nor did the cat-loving public in general know of the felines which were on exhibition in those quiet halls of culture. Yet these cats, the interpretations of one young man's mind, are of great interest to every true felinophile.

Not here are playful kittens with catnip mice nor Persian pussies with bowl-of-cream smiles, but through the starkness, the sometimes ugliness of the lines, shines the bright fire of feline personality so piercingly that often one seems to know these two-dimensional cats with a fourdimensional thoroughness that our own pets may denv us.

These are the paintings of Edward Barber. True, not many of them are "pretty" paintings, but in a world where all too often our full-scale pets are represented only in their "powder-puff" aspects, an artist who will depict the fearful, haunting, thoughtful feline-and can do it with unerring insight-deserves the acclaim of everyone who loves cats for all that they are. Here in reproductions of some of Barber's more that 100 cat paintings is a small glimpse of his work. -R.G.

Mr. Barber who lives at 36 Central Park South in New York, was born in Chicago in 1924. He has been interested in art since childhood, and after serving in the Marine Corps studied painting for ten years, often doing dishwashing and other menial jobs to earn the money for his education.

"In 1951," he says, "I was given two Siamese cats. They were my only companions. As I watched their amazing movements and almost human eyes I began to feel more for them than for the company of people. Then when I made my Paris trip I left them with some friends on a ranch in the Rockies. When I returned, I found that both had been killed by some mountain animal. "I could not get over this loss, and started then to

paint and paint and paint cats.

Though I have never owned one again, I watch them in the streets and in the alleys. They have more dependence-more expression than any other subject for

"Some of the cats in my paintings have come to my window day after day, and have posed for as long as a half-hour at a time while I have been putting them on canvas."



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"Tips to the Novice" bv Blanche Wolfram

Around the neighborhood they called him that big old Alley Cat. Little did they know that he was one of the finest Domestic cats that it has even been my pleasure to behold. He could have easily won many blue ribbons from some of his more aristocratic cousins in any show. He was superb, with his massive head, strong body and legs, full-length tail, large wideset eyes and short little ears that somehow tilted forward. He was gray and white and was usually very dirty except after a rain then he was magnificent.

I cannot recall when I had first laid eyes on him, but it came about in this manner. One morning I had been preparing the food for my cats and just happened to look out the window. It was a cold, blustery, winter day and there huddled in a corner of the porch, trying to keep warm, was this poor bedraggled cat. I felt sorry for him because it appeared as though he were starved and that a square meal would do him a world of good. Yes, I know it is said that if you feed a stray cat it will always come back for more, but I thought, the heck with that old tale, this cat needs immediate help. I warmed up some of the food a little more and took it out on the porch. He shied away from me but when I re turned inside, I watched him through the window. He slowly came over to the food and sniffed all around it. It was good fresh horsemeat with all the vitamins mixed in with it and I thought he might not eat it because of the strange taste and aroma. He took a mouthful and knew it was something different, but after that he began to eat as if he were famished. When he had finished it off he looked up at me in the window as if to say-that was good, may I have some more, please? He was rewarded with more and I had a feeling of happiness that I had done a good deed.

He soon learned that every morning and evening at seven, was feeding time around our home. Sure enough, he was Johnny-on-the-spot, about a half hour ahead of time. We placed a box just outside the door which we could feed him in and which would shelter him from the summer rain and wintry cold, while he waited. From eating that food he began to grow healthy and no longer was he thin and weak but seemed full of the "old nick." Many an hour would he spend with us and he repaid us by keeping all the stray cats, and dogs, too, away from the back yard. He never bothered the birds which we feed every day, and both were so used to the other's being around that

OLD GRANDPAP

neither paid any attention and all got along fine.

As time went by, Old Grandpap would come up close to me but I never had a chance to touch or pet him. Evidently, he was so used to being ill-treated that he no longer trusted us humans. I felt bad about this because when he had been fighting (which he evidently loved so much) his eyes would be in a sad shape and there were many cuts and wounds about his face. The only thing I could do was to slip some penicillin in his food to prevent infection so that the wounds would heal more quickly.

Sometimes, he would not be around for two or three days but, this was to be expected-perhaps some beautiful little doll, held him up. However, he would always show up eventually and at times like this. I would give him an extra portion of food and drink. He would then lie in the sun and sleep peacefully away. I had become so used to his being around that when he did stay away I would find myself wondering about him. I didn't know who owned him but I treated him with the same thoughtfulness and kindness that I did my prize Blue-Eyed White Persians.

In December of last year, we had some very changeable weather. It was during one of these sudden freezing spells that he came around one morning in a terrible state of affairs. His eyes and nose were running very bad. He moved with a slowness that pointed out his weakness from illness. He kept right on going and didn't stop for his usual food. I wanted to catch him and see if I could hold him to somehow help. I tried to hurry outside, but at a time like this there is always something goes wrong. The darned latch on the door got all tangled up, and I had to run around and go out the front door. By the time I had reached the back he was nowhere in sight.

A week passed with no sign of Old Grandpap, I was worried, so I started an inquiry around the neighborhood in an attempt to find out what had happened. Sure enough, about three blocks away, I found who owned him. I knocked on the door and explained who I was and that I was inquiring about the health of their cat. Yes, they said, he was their cat and they called him "Spotty". When I told them I called him "Old Grandpap" because he seemed to move so slowly and appeared to be old they laughed with me. They said, too, they had wondered where he was getting his food for he had been growing very well and would not eat much of the food they were giving him. I then asked if I could see him and this is the story as they told it to me.

They never let him in the house and would feed him outside, but this one day he just came home and lay down by the door. He could not get up, so they took him inside and gave him a cardboard box to lie in. They didn't like the looks of him

and decided to put him down in the cellar. They could see he was sick but they did not know what to do about it, so they decided to ask their neighbors. Oh, let him alone, they were told, cats get better by themselves. However, Old Grandpap got worse and worse. I asked them why they didn't take him to a veterinarian? Their reply was-in the first place they couldn't get him there, in the second place they didn't want to spend the money, and in the third place they couldn't be bothered trying to nurse any sick cat.

Well, Old Grandpap is dead. No finer cat ever walked the face of this earth and I am sure that if he had been treated with kindness he would have been a very good friend to someone. What made me feel so bad was-no matter how poorly he had been treated there-he still went home to die.

Here I am, trying to bring knowledge to all, so that they may better understand their pets and treat them with kindness and respect. No animal can cure itself; it must get help. Too many conditions of illness are brought on by either bacteria or virus that cats have no way of combatting. Sure, cuts and scratches and even broken bones will heal or mend, but when they are pulled down with an illness caused by germs, cats, like humans are helpless to ward off death by themselves. Everything that I write is for all cats, be they Persians, Siamese, Russian Blues, Burmese, Abyssinians, Manx, or Domestic-otherwise known as Alley Cats. Barn Cats, or just plain old Mousers. I pray that my words will somehow get through to the owners of cats so that they will understand how their help is needed by their pets.

Our veterinarians are pledged to try to save a life regardless of what animal it may be, and are doing their best to educate the public of the importance of medical aid. Too many cases are brought to them as a last resort, and if they cannot save them, or the cost is too high, the public blames the vets. How foolish this is, when the prime objective of the veterinary profession is to render service to humanity through the best and fullest use of its knowledge and skill. The responsibilities of the veterinarian extend not only to those clients who request his services, but also to society, and demand his cooperation and participation in all activities which have as their objective the improvement of health and living standards.

All the Cat Clubs, scattered throughout this great land of ours welcome folks to join in with them and bring to all a common fraternity of cat people. They are doing their best to instill in the hearts of all people a fondness for a pet that will give many hours of joy and comfort. They are teaching them that although a cat is just a cat, a bond of friendship can exist between animal and man that will be of benefit to both. We need more and more of these clubs, for the good they are doing is tremendous.

We have many, many, fine people who (Continued on page 20)

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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Master Sergeant Norman Zeisloft, U.S.A.F., has found the best medicine for homesickness. Get a kitten. Sergeant Zeisloft, stationed in Japan with the army, sent us this picture of Kome (pronounced Ko-May) meaning dry rice, or rice grain. So called, because the sergeant's little daughter found the kitten abandoned in a rice paddy and brought him home.

Kome was so small that his eyes weren't even open. The Zeisloft's fed him with an eve dropper till he graduated to a bottle and nipple in due time. We don't know if he can read Japanese, but he certainly knows milk when he tastes it.

Mr. Zeisloft writes that there is no canned cat food for sale in the land of the rising sun so they have been feeding Kome beef liver, kidneys and fish from local Japanese fish stores.

The family plans when they come back home to bring this oriental Moses with them and to make him a full fledged American citizen. Being a personage with a reasonable amount of cash, he will likely have no difficulty passing through the immigration office.

Already he has to his credit the \$25.00 U. S. Bond for the May Picture of the Month award.

CATS MAGAZINE

PICTURE OF THE MONTH CONTEST RULES (For Photographs or Drawings)

- 1. Any unpublished Black and White Photograph or Drawing featuring Cats or Kittens is alleible

- Any unpublished Black and White Photograph or Drawing featuring Cats or Kittens is eligible.
 Entries must not be smaller than 5" × 7" nor larger than 12" × 14".
 Pictures will be judged on interest and technical excellence.
 Contestant's name and address and title of picture, if any, must be firmly affixed or printed lightly on the back of entry.
 All entries must be submitted by the artist or photographer who produced the picture. Commercially finished photos are acceptable, but must be entered by the person who took the picture. Drawings must be originals.
 CATS Magazine can not enter into correspondence with contestants. No entries will be acknowledged or returned, and all become the property of CATS Magazine. Judges' decisions will be final.
- 7. Contestants agree to give CATS Magazine Contestants agree to give CAIS magazine permission to use names and phetographs for editorial, publicity, and advertising purposes. However, any non-winning picture which is subsequently used by CATS Magazine for such purposes will be paid for at our regular rates.
- Employees or editorial associates of CATS Magazine are not eligible.
- All entries received during the period November 15, 1956 to November 14, 1957 will be considered for monthly and yearly
- portices.

 10. Prizes will be—one \$25.00 U. S. Bond for the best entry named each month, and one \$100.00 U. S. Bond for the picture judged the 1936 Cat Picture of the Year.
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Cats Ouestion Box

Conducted By E. A. Renaux, D.V.M.

I have a Longhair male, and the other day while giving him oil a few drops got on his fur. I put a little talcum powder on it. Then I brushed and brushed. It worked so I tried sprinkling the talc on other parts of his coat, and then brushing. You never saw such fluffy fur in your life. I didn't put it on his skin, just on the top of his fur. Now I am wondering if this treatment will harm him.

-Mrs. Leon Nixon

14 Maple Street Pennsville, New Jersey

As far as I know, there would be nothing toxic in the tale you mentioned. Do not use too much as should he inhale a bit it could irritate his nostrils and cause him to sneeze.

What can we do about cat distemper? Every cat we have dies before it gets to be six months old. I am very fond of cats and hate to see them die. Two months ago we had seven kittens and they all died.

Hereford, South Dakota

The use of serum and vaccine would be helpful, but if there are cats in the area that are allowed to roam, the infection can become "hot" or very potent in a particular area and make it very difficult to raise cats. Good sanitation is important.

I have a part Longhair female cat who is about five years old. In the past six months I have noticed that she puts her head to the floor and coughs. I do put vaseline on her nose now and then to cut the hairballs in her. Her appetite is good but she isn't as peppy as she once was. She is very nervous since her operation and seems to be frightened all the time.

-Mrs. Ivan Hess

994 N. Detroit Street, Xenia, Ohio

There are a number of conditions that might cause her to cough. I would suggest, if possible, an X-ray be taken of the chest and a blood sample be examined to see if there are any abnormalities present that would help in determining the diffi-

Toby is an eleven-year-old, Smoke Longhair. In all his eleven years he has had but one problem. That is the mats in his hair. Usually we can brush them out or we can get rid of them some other way, but this time we can't seem to get to the skin. They are so close to his skin that we can't get a comb through let are so close to his skin that we could be alone a brush. I hope you can help us help Toby.

—Sande Keyzer

263 Rea Avenue, Hawthorne, New Jersey

The only way I have found to cope with this is to be very patient and carefully clip these mats of hair off with scissors. Don't try to cut too much at one snip, but rather cut just a little bit at a time. Be very careful not to nip the skin.



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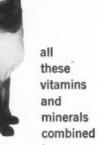
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If there is no C.F.F. Club in your town, organize one! The C.F.F. secretary will gladly furnish you information.

Cats Club and **Show Reporter**

ATLANTIC SHOW DEC. 13-14

1957 will see an Atlantic Cat Club show in New York City on December 13 and 14. Short-hair and Silver Specialties will be judged by Doris Hobbs. Location and All Breed judge are still to be announced.

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CFA JUDGE

W. E. Padgett.

CATS is happy to announce that our Con-tributing Editor Blanche Wolfram has been placed on the CFA judges' list for Longhair and Solid Color Specialties.

SMOOTH SHOW AT DAYTON

Exhibitors who weren't there will find it hard to believe, but breeders and cats were able to leave the show room at 6:00 p.m. Sunday evening! To quote the Dayton Journal Herald, was one of the fastest-moving shows ever held, and was attributed to the accommodations of Memorial Hall." We attribute it also to the competence and efficiency of the judges, the well-planned organization and the helpfulness of all club members and exhibitors.

Our thanks to all of you.

Mary Lee Pfaff, Show Secretary Dayton Cat Fanciers

D.V.C.F. JUMPS TO MARCH '58

An open letter to our Exhibitors and Friends: Due to the congested schedule at the beginning of the show season, the Delaware Valley Cat Fanciers, (ACA) wish to announce that our next show date will be the second Saturday of March 1958, We regret extremely the circumstances caus-

We regret extremely the circumstances causing this change, but hope that the many wonderful friends we have made in the past two years will understand and bear with us. Meanwhile, we shall so utilize our time as to make our Edgely Show 1958 one you will be

proud to attend. Mrs. Howard L. Thoman, Secretary Delaware Valley Cat Fanciers

FAVORS PH: 6371

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FELINE GUIDE

by Ordath P. Jacobson

Maybe it wasn't odd that I was the only one of the family to get lost in the North Woods on that camping trip. There are four of us, Bob, Pat, Spatsy and I. Bob is the cautious member. Pat and Spatsy are commonly called alley cats and dumb animals, but both terms are wrong. For, although great explorers, cats prefer the comforts of home to an alley. And their new is not limited to a monotone. They speak a musical language, by varying degrees of pitch, tone coloring and shading. With just their purr, growl and spit they can express everything from contentment to curses.

And Pat and Spatsy are much-traveled cats. They have climbed redwoods in California and maples in Maine, and fought wharf cats in Key West. They know their

way around.

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It was cloudy and cool that first morning after we arrived, an ideal day for a hike. So leaving Bob with camp chores, the cats and I started out; they lingering at first, carefully inspecting trees. Soon they were racing ahead, tails full mast, Pat's long yellow tail forming a question mark and Spatsy's short black tail an exclamation. They studied growth, hid behind clumps of ferns and jumped at me as I passed. Once a saucy woodpecker unhooked himself from a tree trunk, made a nose dive over Spatsy and yelled, "Sc-RAM!" Spatsy cringed, but Pat sent the woodpecker minding his own business. Spatsy was little, so Pat always looked after him.

We continued for an hour, in a semicircle direction, over or around little wave-like hills. Then I called the cats to start back. They came running, and rubbed arched backs against my ankles. But Pat questioned the wisdom of our taking a short cut. "Me-OW?" he asked. They came, though. Lagging; tails lowered to half most

We crossed several hills. "You're going wrong!" insisted Pat, sharply. I was beginning to suspect as much, but continued stubbornly on. Suddenly Pat sat down. "Me-OO-OW!" he wailed in a deep bass. "Me-ee-ee!" whined Spatsy in a thin soprano. He leaped to my arms, a trick he always does when he wants something. And this time . . . I couldn't give him what he wanted. He wanted me to take him back to camp, and I didn't know the way. Yes, we—I—was lost. The cats knew the way back. But they didn't know I was—the dumb animal.

All at once the North Woods seemed to be closing in on me, while at the same time the great vastness of it gave me panicky shivers; both claustrophobia and agoraphobia, ridiculous as that may sound.

Then I remembered: Your dog thinks you're something on a pedestal—your cat knows better, but loves you anyway. Your dog might go for help in case of an accident but he'd never believe you'd get

lost. He thinks you're always right and he's always wrong.

Resenting a deflated ego, I told the cats, "We're lost. Even if the sun would shine it wouldn't enlighten us. It wouldn't help if we could find a stream—moss, you know grows on the bank that faces north." Spatsy whimpered. He was tired and hungry. Pat and I both always had babied him. Oh, surely Pat would do something now! "Because we don't know which direction our camp is supposed to be."

Pat sniffed a dwarfed goldenrod. "Bosh!" he sneezed. He started walking away, in almost our opposite direction, calling, "Mi-AOW-o, Mi-AOW-o," much like a cat calls kittens. Spatsy jumped from my arms and followed, looked back and

pleadingly mewed, "Come on."

It was a long way back but Pat, our little yellow beacon, kept up on a straight course. He led us over boulders, through brush and briars. Not even chipmunks, scolding bluejays, none of the wonders of the North Woods distracted him. Finally, on reaching a hilltop, he turned to us with several glad staccato-like mews in very fast tempo—his version of Home Sweet Home. At the foot of the hill was our camp. And Bob, devouring yesterday's newspaper and sipping lunch—nothing but coffee!

He was really glad to see us. "I was beginning to think you folks were lost," he explained. And then added, "I'll open a can of salmon."



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For complete details regarding Registering, Clubs, Club Organization, and for any other information, write the Secretary-Treasurer. MRS. STANLEY GIBSON, 1710 Wesley Ave., Evanston, III.

Say You Saw It In CATS Magazine

The Bulletins:

GARDEN STATE "CAT WORLD"

This bright successor to previous outstanding Garden State Club bulletins is edited this year by Lois and Robert Green and offers a wide variety of excellent general articles as well as notes on the club doings. Authors represented in the January-February issue are Norman Battis, Richard Gebhardt, Julia Hunter, Louise Marquart, Mrs. M. E. Thorne, Gene Wilson DVM, Blanche Wolfram, and Jean Bird. Covers are graced with several beautiful photos by Mrs. John Pruett. Subscription and advertising in-quiries should be addressed to the Greens, 6 Longview Road, Cedar Grove, N. J.

REAL SERVICE POLICY IMPORTANT

The Memphis and Mid-South Club has recently been cooperating with the local Humane Society and other organizations in a kittenhousing project. This paragraph from their December bulletin may help to explain one of the things which makes a club great:

Each of you can well be proud of what has been accomplished in the past two years of our Club's activities. Your vision and energy in supporting club project's which give you little if any immediate gain are a credit to you and in years to come will proye of real

you and in years to come will prove of real service to Memphis and Shelby County. No organization can long survive the petty conflicts which are bound to afflict every organization unless it has a motivating policy of real community service. YOU HAVE IT.

OBEDIENCE TRAINING!

In the February ACFA Bulletin, Margaret Curtis discusses "Obedience Training for Cats". She reports that her work and that of Karen Bjerkeng on training cats to obey has paid practical dividends, Karen's command of "Impy, stand, stay", stopped her White DSH when he had been frightened at the Kansas City show

had been frightened at the Kansas City show and took off across the stage.

Mrs. Curtis' own "The Duck" a Blue Persian Longhair has appeared with the Minneapolis Twin City Obedience Training Club four times and in October met the Kansas City Obedience dogs at the dual ACFA show. He walks on a leash among as many as fifteen dogs who have been trained not to move. Such demonstrations proved effective gate nullers both at Minneapolis. proved effective gate pullers both at Minneapolis and at Kansas City.

CMCC BULLETIN ON "COON" CATS

In addition to giving us a preview of their unique May 18 cat show, the Central Maine Cat Club Bulletin gives us this information on the famous Maine "Coon" cats.

"So far as we know, there is no purebred Maine Coon cat in existence. The CMCC definition of a Maine Coon cat, come by from diligent research, is that he results from haphasard preeding of Maine cats where any litter may. breeding of Maine cats where any litter may, or may not, produce a longhaired cat that is called a coon cat. The long hair reveals ancestry dating back to the nineteenth century when the seafaring folk of Maine brought the first Longhairs to our continent.

"But changes are abrewing: several CMCC members are attempting controlled breeding among Maine Coon cats, and it is possible after several generations of coon cats have been pro-duced through controlled breeding that a new purebred cat may become recognized by the

Cat Fancy.
"Mrs. George McCartney, Pine Ledge Cat-tery, Greenville, R. I., writer: I have a pair of tiger Maine Coon cats, and they throw both long-and short-haired kits. . . . Their offspring are always colored just like the parents. These cats' breeding has been controlled for at least five generations.

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Fanciers Forum

DO OTHER READERS AGREE?

A proposal for your consideration. Why cannot your excellent publication, which is sub-scribed to by all show people and true fanciers,

scribed to by all show people and true fanciers, publish the points allotted in each show? This could be an official, "box" or list given out properly by the various associations.

The bi-yearly printing of same in your magazine would be official, save the time of all overworked Association Secretaries in answering numerous requests from individual fanciers and be of such a tremendous help to those of us who must compile show records in order to offer sufficient proof of wins to claim Championships and

Grand Championship points.

Hope to hear favorably from you on this

Very truly yours, Ruth Kemp

Puttasong Cattery 11780 Allencrest Drive San Jose 24, California

SHORTHAIRS, ARISE!

Dear Forum :

I wonder if some of the other breeders and I wonder it some of the other breeders and fanciers feel the same way I do. I have just looked through the show Standards and Rules of the five Associations, and have begun to wonder why there are no awards given to the Domestic Shorthair Tabby and Tortie or the Domestic Shorthair Solid Color in the Shorthair Society shows. hair Specialty shows

All that is offered in these shows is the award for Best Domestic Shorthair and Best Domestic Shorthair Opposite Sex, Best Domestic Short-

Shorthair Opposite Sex, Best Domestic Shorthair Champion and Best Domestic Shorthair Champion Opposite Sex. Longhair Specialties almost always make awards to Best T&T's and Best SC's, but the

only time the Shorthair Tabby and Tortic and Solid Color cats can earn Rosettes and Trophies

Solid Color cats can earn Rosettes and Trophies for these wins is when a Tabby and Tortie or Solid Color Specialty club puts on a show or offers rosettes and trophies in other shows. Why should the Longhair cats get all the winnings? Why can't the Associations make permanent divisions for the Domestic Shorthair Tabby and Tortie and the Domestic Shorthair Solid Color cats in the Shorthair Specialty shows?

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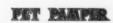
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Show Reports

DELAWARE CAT FANCIERS (CFA) Wilmington, Delaware, Oct. 6—7 ALL BREED—Judge, Mrs. Leater O'Neill. Best Cat, Best Gr Ch, Best LH, F Dixiland Sir Gai of Normont, Blue m, Mrs. Meraid Hoag. 2nd Best Cat, Best CH, Best SH, Best Sia—Newton's Desiree, SP f, Mrs. Arthur Cobb. 08 Aby—Chirn Sa-hai Twenty Carats, m, Mrs. R. L. O'Donovan. Best Nov—Evette of Nigrette, Blue f, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Martinke, OS Nov—Ayme-Cato, Blk m, Betty Youngman. Best Open—Koscak's Choco Vixen, CP f, Hele chirn Sa-hai Twenty Carats, m, Mrs. R. L. O'Donovan. Best Nor—Longhills Evette of Nigrette, Blue f, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Martinke. Os Nov—Ampen-Tu-Wynne Cato, Blk m, Betty Youngman. Best Open—Koscak's Checo Vixen, CP f, Helen Koscak. Os Open, Os SH, Os Sia—Cymri Mia Pong, BP m, Lillian Pedulla. Os LH, Best Sll—Ch Normont Silver Jewell, Chin f, Mrs. Merald Hoag, Os Sil—Sweet Dreams of Minqua, Sh Sil m, fr. & Mrs. Thomas Martinke. Best T&T—Ch Normont Silver Jewell, Chin f, Mrs. Merald Hoag, Os Sil—Sweet Dreams of Minqua, Sh Sil m, fr. & Mrs. Thomas Martinke. Best T&T—Ch Normont Silver Book of Cobourg, Sil Tby f, Mrs. Merald Hoag, Os DSH—Ch Silver Rocks Honey Boy, OE Wh m, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph E. Crone. Best Manx—Ch Ellan Vannin Portice, Tortle, Betty Youngman. Os Aby—Capereat Isis, f, Caroline B, Herz. Best Burmese—Ch Cymri Pad-Ma, m, Lillian Pedulla. Os Burmese—Oboyns Miss Burma of Chirn Sa-hal, f, Mrs. R. L. O'Donovan. Best RB—Ch Troika's Indigo Czar of Pentagon, m, Mr. & Mrs. Rarold Bayer. Best Kit—Green Lane Van of Velvet Shadow, CF m, Judith Engelsher. Os Kit—Far Cry Lent Lenape of Minqua, Blit f, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Martinke. Best Neuter—Smokey. Smoke SH, Samuel S. Lord, Jr. Best Spay—Losan, BP, Catherine Temple. LOMCHAIR SPECIALTY—Judge, Robert Martin. Best Cat, Best Gr Ch, Best SC—Dixiland Sir Gai of Normont, Blue m, Mrs. Merald Hoag. 2nd Best Cat, Best Nor—Golden Flare of Normont, Cr m, Lois G, Holda. OS Cat, OS Ch, OS SC—Longhills Flicka of Minqua, Cr f, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Martinke. Best Chapter's Blue Cadet, Blue m, Stella Calvet. OS Nov—Donna Arts. Blk f, Donna Wendel. Best Open—(not given). OS Onen—(not given). Best Sil—(not given). So Sil—(not given). Best Open—(not given). GS Onen—(not given). Best Sil—(not given). Best Open—(not given). GS Onen—(not given). Best Sil—(not given). Best Sil—(not given). Best Cat, Best Open—(not given). GS Onen—(not given). Best Sil—(not given). Best Sil—(not given). Best Cat, Best Open. Gond Fallette, Tottle, Mrs. Thomas Martinke. Os Kit—Mr Sand of Normont, Cr m, Mrs. Merald H

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Roose. Best. Neuter—Inity, Blk, Mrs. J. E. Carr. Best Spay—Losan, BP, Catherine Temple.

SAM DIEGO CAT FAMCIERS (CFA) 10th Ch Show. Sas Diego, California. Jan. 12—13, 1957. ALL BREED—Judge, Laura Graham. Best Cat, Best Ch, Best Lit, Best Sill—Lac Diego, California. Jan. 12—13, 1957. ALL BREED—Judge, Laura Graham. Best Cat, Best Ch, Best Lit, Best Sill—Lac Chin Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Webb. Best Gr Ch, OS SII—Sir Rondore of Silver Mesa, Chin m, Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Webb. Best Gr Ch, OS SII—Sir Rondore of Silver Mesa, Chin m, Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Webb. Best Gr Ch, OS SII—Sill—ALRH Marin Princess Always, SP f. Mrs. Spencer Smiley. Best Sh, Best Sils—Ch Boren's Frost-E-Blue Eyes of Tagala. Ff m, Mrs. Wm. F. Egan. Best Nov—Goforth's Lika-Dream of Souvenit, Blue f. Mrs. L. F. Stephens. OS Nov—Skyland Mercury, Chin m, Gladys Weirleh. Best Open, Best SC.—Luana Torch Fisher, Blk m, Helen Olis. OS Open—Kabuki Dancer, CP f. Helen W. Alexander. OS SC—Ch Azulita Pavlova, Blue f, Mrs. Walker K. Johnston. Best T&T—Sunglows Challenge, Red Tby m, Mrs. Charles Trotta. OS T&T—Kerry Lu Paiz lee, Tortle, Dr. Fern Smith. Best DSH—Ch Tab-Boo, Brn Tby m, Dr. Fern Smith. OS DSH—Walana, Sill Tby f. Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Carrithers. Best Manx—Lucy, Red Tby, Dr. Theodore Walker. OS Manx—Ch Xantha's Demetreos of Frame's Blize Jewel, Blue m, Richard D. Frame. Best Aby—Aleestis, f. Allee Archibald. OS Aby—Korki's All Impy of Quinn, m, Elsle L. Quinn. Best Burnese—Ch Jadawh Julie's Nuba of Boren. f, Dr. & Mrs. Roren. Best RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elleen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elleen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elsen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elsen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elsen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elsen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elsen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch HRIN Marin Cara of Almar, m, Elsen and Peter Anderson. OS RB—Ch n, BP, Catherine Temple. SAN DIEGO CAT FANCIERS (CFA) 10th Ch Show. San Diego, California. Jan

Neuter—Militer Chu, SF, Mf. & Mrs. Wm. Stoker. Best Spay—Ch Fairchild's Alpha, Alve Archibald.

Aby, Alvee Archibald.

GREATER ST. LOUIS CAT CLUB (CFA) 19th Ch Show, St. Louis, Mo. Jan. 26-27, 1957. ALL BREED—Judge, Mrs. C. F. Rutter. Best Cat, Best Gr Ch, Best LH, Best SC—Longhill's Michael, Cr m, Mrs. Gilbert Rose. 2nd Best Cat, Best Sil—Gr Ch Shy's Castle His Royal Shyness, Chin m, Mrs. Willard Shy. OC Cat, 08 Open, 08 LH, 68 SC—Madeira Fatima of Blulace. Blk f, Mrs. R. A. Lacy. Best Ch. Best Aby—Selené's Vignette of Willouise, Mary Louise Fiz. 08 Ch—Fernwood's Little Blue Cloud, Blue f, Mary Louise Fiz. Best Nov, 08 Sil—Shy's Castle Kuple Iboll, Sh Sil f, Mrs. Willard Shy. OS Nov. Best SH, Best Sia—Green Lane Van of Velvet Shadow, CP m, Judy Engelsher. Best Open—Co-Mo's Lucky Mickey, Blue m, Mrs. Frank McPhee. Best T&T—Bloemhill Lorelel, Bl Cr, Mrs. John Bloem. OS T&T—Jay-Kay Titan, Brn Tby m, Dorothy Anderson. 06 Sil, 08 Sia—Gin's Chi Kena, SP f, Dr. J. S. Caldwell. Best DSR—Ch Stargypi of My Lo, Sil Tby m, Mrs. Frank Lockrey, Sr. OS DSH—Ch Minoul Petite, Califee f, Anna Mike. Best Manna—Ch Dhu Liec Carrick of Ba-Lo, Brn Tby m, Mrs. R. W. Boehlow. OS Manx—Ch Ba-Lo's Annette, Tortie. Mrs. Boehlow.

Best Kit. Bioembill Spartan, Cr m, Mrs. John Bloem. 68 Kit.—Bioembill Largo, Bl Cr, Mrs. John Bloem. Best Neuter—Shy's Castle Kelly, Cr, Mrs. Robert Ennis, Best Spay—Pretty Princess, SP, Mr. & Mrs. Fred T. Leebrick, LOMGHAIR SPECIALTY—Judge, Mrs. Lawrence Pelton. Best Cat, Best Gr Ch, Best SC.—Longhill's Michael, Cr m, Mrs. Gibbert Rose, 2nd Best Cat, Best Gr Ch, Best SC.—Longhill's Michael, Cr m, Mrs. Gibbert Rose, 2nd Best Cat, Best Sli—Gr Ch Shy's Castle His Royal Shynes, Chin m, Mrs. Willard Shy, 08 Cat, 08 Open. 08 SC.—Shy S castle Tina, Blue f, Mr. & Mrs. Gene Ralston. Best Ch.—Khyber's Kenny of Kansas City, Blue m, Mrs. Ethel Kingsland. 08 Ch, 08 Sil.—Shy's Castle Joni, Chin f, Mrs. Willard Shy, Best Now.—Lavender Gloribee, Blue f, Mary Louise Fix, 08 Now.—Chestefield Ray of Shy's Castle, Sh Sli m, Mrs. Willard Shy, Best Open—Co-Mo's Lucky Mickey, Blue m, Mrs. Frank McPhee. Best T&T.—Jay-Kay Titan, Brn Thy m, Dorothy Anderson. 08 T&T-Ch Kohinoor's Colene of Spero, Red Tby f, Mrs. Anderson. Best Kit.—Bloemhill Spartan. Cr m, Mrs. John Bloem. 08 Kit.—Bloemhill Largo, Bl Cr, Mrs. John Bloem. Best Nouter—Shy's Castle Kelly, Cream, Mrs. Robert Ennis. SHORTHARIR SPECIALTY—Judge, Bl Tr., Lawrence Petton. Best Cat, Best Open, Best Sla.—Causeway Lucienne, SP m, Mrs. A. P. Tyler. 2nd Best Cat, 08 Cat, Best Open, Best Sla.—Causeway Lucienne, SP m, Mrs. A. P. Toler. 2nd Best Cat, 08 Cat, Best Open, Best Sla.—Causeway Lucienne, SP m, Mrs. A. P. Toler. Charleston. Best T&T.—Ch Stargryfor My-Lo, Sil Tby m, Mrs. Frank Lockrey, Sr. Os T&T.—Minoui Fi Fl, Tortie. Anna Milke. Best Manx.—Ch Rosedere Dotty of Chesterfield, Oc Wh f, Ethel Kingsland Os Manx.—Ch Bosedere Dotty of Chesterfield, Oc Wh f, Ethel Kingsland. Os Manx.—Ch Dut Lie Carrick of Ba-Lo, Brn Tby m, Mrs. R. W. Boehlow. Best Aby.—Ch Selené's Vignette of Willoulse. Mrs. Fred Kit.—My-Lo's Minka Doll, BP f, Mrs. Frank Lockrey, Sr. OS T&T.—Minoui Fi Fl, Tortie. Anna Milke. Best Spay—Pretty Princess, SP. Mrs. Fred C. Lebricky.

OUEER CITY CAT CLUB (AGA) Buffale, New York, '7th Ch Shew, Jan 12–13, 1957. ALL BREED—Judge, Dr. Frances McCraken. Best Cat, Best Open. Best LB. Best SC—Longhill's White Stowball, De W m. Mrs. V. V. Schub. And Best Cat—Including Stown of the Common Commo Fred T. Leebrick.

QUEEN CITY CAT CLUB (ACA) Buffalo, New York. 7th Ch Show, Jan 12-13,

7. ALL BREED—Judge, Dr. Frances McCraken. Best Cat. Best Open, Best LH.

SC—Longshill's White Snowball. Ge W m. Mrs. V. V. Schuh. 2nd Best Cat—
given). OS Cat. Best Nov. OS LH. OS SII—Chatami Delure of Rollywood, Sh., Mrs. Reid Copeland. Best Ch.—Klinkhammer's Carousel, Odd E Wh. m. Mrs.,

Schuh. OS Ch., OS SC—Lee's Hi-Hat Sweet Regardless, BE Wh., Marke Wilson.

of Wila Blite, BE Wh m, Bettle Collins. 08 SC, 08 DSH—Ch Evergreen's Juno of Silver Quest, BE Wh f, Kay Thoma McQuillen. Best T&T—Lavender Ditto of Motto Hope, Brn Tby DSH m, Mrs. Allen Jones. 08 T&T—Cassanova's Tablitha, Brn Tby DSH f, Edith McPhee. Best Aby—Chirn Sa-hai Cricket of Kalyan, f, Albert Hamling, Best Kit—Sherwood, BP f, Norma Walsh. 08 Kit.—Dalai Singh Sun, CP m, Virginia Daly. Best Neuter—Dalai Sam Phong, SP, Mary A. Hogg. Best Spay—Babylon's Cleo

sellow quote, Be Wit D., Kay Thomas Medgelline Best 7487—Lastender Dittor of Motto Hope, Ren't Typ DSH m. Mrs. Allen Joses, 08 7487—Casanova's Tablitha, Bru Thy BSH m. Mrs. Allen Joses, 08 7487—Casanova's Tablitha, Bru Thy BSH T., Edition Methres. Best Alony—Chin Sashad Cricked of Kalyan, f. Albert Hamiling, Land College, 1981—Casanova's Tablitha, Bru Thy Blatten, 1981—Casanova's Tablitha, Bru Thy Green's College, 1981—Casanova's Tablitha, Bru Thy Green's College, 1981—Casanova's Tablitha, Bru Thy Green's College, 1981—Casanova's College, 1981—Casanova's College, 1981—Casanova's College, 1981—Casanova's College, 1981—Casanova's Casanova's College, 1981—Casanova's Casanova's Casanova's

Mrs. Conrad Barr.

DAYTOM CAT FANCIERS (CFA) 5th Ch. Show, Dayton, Ohio. Feb 2-3, 1957.

All BREED—Judge, Mrs. C. F. Retter. Best Cat, Hest Ch. Hest LH, Best Sil—
Favors Maxim of Beverly-Serano, Chin, m, Naomi Favors. 2nd Hest Cat, Hest Gr Ch.
Bust SC—Longhill's Michael, Cr m, Mrs. Gilbert Hisse. OS Cat, Best Open, OS LH,
SS SC—Madeira Fatima of Blulace, Blk f, Mrs. R. A. Lacy. OS Ch. Best DSH—
Lavender Silver Belle. Sil Tby f, LaVerne Chapman. Best Nor, OS SH, OS Sia—Green

Lame Vam of Velvet Shadow, CP m. Judy Engelsher. Best SH, Best Sia—Medicine Lake Pride of Dalai, SP f. Virginia Daly. OS Nov—Sylvan Serenade, SP f. Mr. & Mrs. D. Gordon MacKachen. OS Open—Westbrook's Liverache, EE Wh m, Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Offenbacher. OS Sil—Mimi of Muncle, Sh Sil f. Mrs. Lucy Balley, Best T&T—Longhill's Glorirose, Bl Cr., Mrs. C. B. Weaver. OS T&T—Sunny Land Brown Robin of Jay-Kay, Brn Tby m, Dorothy Anderson. OS DSH—Ch McKnight Tar Baby, Hik m, Mr. & Mrs. Ferlle McKnight. Best Manx—Ch Xantha's Candace of Tra Mar, Bik f, Mr. & Mrs. Ferlle McKnight. Best Manx—Ch Xantha's Candace of Tra Mar, Bik f, Mr. & Mrs. Selhard Tracy. OS Manx—Willowrock Craigneish, Blue m. Angle Booghman. Best Aby—Ch Selene's Vignette of Willouise, m. Mary Louise Fix. OS Aby—Bograe's Teta of Blue Grass, f. Mrs. Lucs Scombs. Best Burnese-Ch Reeba Ka, f. Mr. & Mrs. Alberten Slauter & Saundra. OS Burnese—Shaw Mere, m, Mr. & Mrs. Slauter & Saundra. Best Kitt—Saruk's Daisblelle, Blue f, Sikp Peterson. OS Kit—Fros-Te-Kat, F.P m, Mrs. O. H. Bridge. Best Neuter—Jan-Kats Clarence, SP, Phillip Snively. Best Spay—Silver Angel, Sh Sil, Helen Nokes. SOLID GOLOR SPECIALTY—Judge, Mrs. Lawrence Potton. Best Cat, Best Gr Ch—Longhill's White Madonna, OE Wh f, Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Rose. 2nd Best Cat, Best Gr Ch—Longhill's White Madonna, OE Wh f, Mr. & Mrs. Ripley. Best Nov—Lawrender Gloribee, Blue f, Mary Louise Fix. OS Nov—El Ebon Pinky Lee, Eed m. Mrs. Robert G. Smith. Best Open—tnot given). Dest Kit—Saruk's Fancy Pants. Bike m, O. R. Peterson, Jr. OS Kit—Srauk's Daisblelle, Blue f, Skip Peterson. Best Newter—Ch. Spero's Basin St Classie, Blk, Dr. J. S. Caldwell. SHORTHAIR SPECIALTY—Judge. Mrs. Lawrence Potton. Best Cat, Best Gr, Dest St. Best Kit—Saruk's Fancy Pants, Blue m, O. R. Peterson, Jr. OS Kit—Bren Dalai Jakki, SP m, Virginia Daly, 2nd Best Cat, Best Ch. Best SC, Best Burnese—KokoMo of Elyrla, m, Mr. & Mrs. Alberten Slauter & Saundra. OS Cat, OS Ch, Best T&T. Best DSH—Ch McKnight Tar Baby, Blk m, Mr. & Mrs. Slicher Best Mrs. Slauter &

CORRECTIONS.

Pacific dat Fanciers Sherthair Specialty: 2nd Best Male, Best Ch, Fan-T-Cee's Tee Cee, Mrs. Fred Galvin, should have been listed as a Seal Point Slamese. Midwest Felline Fanciers Lenphair Specialty: 2nd Best Cat 08, Best Nov, 08 SC was Sno Panda's Little Girl, 0E Wh F., Patricia Listoe. Hawkeye State All Broed: Mrs. Beula Biederman is owner of Ch. Elleo's Sir Rascal Peke Red Thy m, who was 08 T&T. Canadian National Shorthair Specialty: BOX Kitten was Selene's Hermina, RB f, Mrs. Leonard Schuler.

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This advertisement is an appeal to every one of you who loves cats—alley or pedigreed. MRS. MAUDE ERWIN, an 85-year-old-widow is trying her best to keep and care for over 300 of these homeless foundlings-dumped or found halfstarved. None are turned away from her door.

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(This adv. paid for by a friend who wants

NUTRITION

(from page 7)

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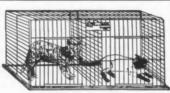
No photo of 'Echo' prepares one seeing him for the whose coat, perfectly-tipped a light sparkling silver year 'round, is so luxurious we must even comb his year round, is so luxurious we must even comb his feet! A really terrific head so broad a woman's hand can scarcely span it, tiny well-set ears, great, round eyes of the deepest green and a sweet lamb-like dis-position complete a picture of a fine chinchilla, His kids are going to be winning mext Fall—

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GRANDPAP

(from page 11)

by becoming breeders of fine cats are bringing to the public more and more beautiful, healthy, and lovable pets. Theirs is not an easy lot, for there are many trials and tribulations that stand in the way of bringing you these fine cats. No. it is a terrific job and one whose remuneration in the form of money, is small indeed. However, through their love and perseverence, they forget their many heartbreaks and look only to the joy that a kitten will bring to some human. They too, are helping in every way possible to teach the people the value of a pet.

That great television program-Noah's Ark-has done wonders in bringing to our children an understanding of the value of a pet as a buddy and friend. It has taught them to care for their pets-above all, to be kind to them, and when illness strikes to be sure to see that they have every chance to continue living. Programs such as this should be given every support possible, for they teach in a pleasant way some of the important things our children should know.

I know there are millions and millions of cats everywhere and it would be a hopeless task to care for them all, but through education and guidance we could somehow make a better life for many of them. I am not trying to be a fanatic about this, but only wish to help people enjoy their pets. So many unnecessary cruelties and bigotries, could be prevented if all of us would try just a little harder. By being kind to animals, we would certainly make a better world in which to live, and who knows-it might teach mankind to be kinder to man,

Next month we shall bring you my long awaited article—Urolithiasis (Kidney Stones) in the Male Cat.

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The cheerfully designed kitty-pink can carries the CATS Magazine Seal of Approval.

FREE KITTY CARE BOOKLET

With the cooperation of the Memphis and Mid-South Cat Fanciers and of veterinarians, the makers of Pet Pamper have prepared a small, but comprehensive and very helpful pamphlet called "Kitty Care and Training". It covers such questions as training, feeding, grooming, toys, birth and health in clearly understandable fashions.

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IN MEXICO

(from page 5)

house overlooking three terraces filled with blooming bougainvillaea bushes and avacado trees. From the kitchen window we could see the servants' house of the big estate, complete with swimming pool, on the next street. The young couple who worked there had a radio which every morning played Mexican soap operas and songs from South Pacific! To the tune of "I'm in Love with a Wonderful Guy" I could hear the slapping of the dough as the wife patted tortillas that she cooked over her small charcoal burner. We had a balcony where while taking sunbaths we could look over the tiled roofs of the city and hear the band playing down in the plaza. But Jezebel never got to enjoy any of this. The senorita who lived in the house next door had a big tom cat who had chased Jezebel down the three terraces the first day we were there. Jezebel never went outdoors again until we carried her to the car when we moved on.

In Patzcuaro, our next stop, we had a two-room suite, including three meals a day for two of us, for the equivalent of \$3.50 a day American money. The back room opened out on a wide balcony that extended around the square patio. It was dense with tropical plants and small trees. The front room had a double door onto a balcony with an old iron railing. This overlooked the plaza where the Tarascan Indians and other natives came down on Fridays, market day, to buy pottery, fresh white fish from the lake, colorful rebozos, wide brim straw hats, and cheap American yard goods. Jezebel liked this balcony best. She ate her breakfast there in the morning sunlight and then took a walk across the narrow ledge from our balcony to the next one. The shoeshine man down on the plaza would look up and laugh as we called to Jezebel and tried to entice her back to her own balcony.

I think Patzcuaro was tops with Jezebel. She could, sitting there on her balcony, above all the confusions of noisy tourists, watch the native women in their colorful embroidered blouses and their black or red heavily gathered skirts. They wore straw hats with colored ribbons on the crown and their black pigtails hung down their backs. Burlap sacking was thrown over their shoulders and held by a wide strap over their foreheads. There were bundles in the burlap, a baby wrapped in a rebozo in one arm, a basket in the other, and they walked barefooted across the dirt and cobblestone streets. Father would be following, carrying nothing but the popsicle he was eating, and wearing sandals on his poor feet. Then there were the small boys driving mules. Jezebel could watch them from her special seat and have not a worry about meeting them personally. Jezebel doesn't like animals.

Or, maybe it was a toss-up between Patzcuaro and Guadalajara for Jezebel. Because outside that modern city we found an American-type motel with real home

cooking, and here Jezebel had her first hamburger since we'd left the states. By then she was getting tired of canned fish, Mexican style, and baby food in the local super markets, as we'd call them, was twice the price we'd pay at home. After we had settled outside this city for a month's stay we often drove back to the motel for a real American meal. Always on the order was one hamburger, medium rare, two pesos, for Jezebel. We took it out to her in the car, parked so we could watch her from the window while we ate. We were always afraid someone might try to walk off with her, some brave soul, so we kept her in sight when possible. If not, we left her with a boy watching the car. There was always one around, ready to watch and/or wash your car while you parked. And when we came out there was the usual routine.

"Gato?"
"No. Gatita."

"Que se llama?"

"Jezebel."

This name always puzzled them and they'd have some difficulty in pronouncing it

Jezebel really learned about animal life in a little village on Lake de Chapala. At home her only contacts had been with other cats and dogs. Here in Ajijic she met horses, bulls, cows, burros, frogs and scorpions. We parked our car in front of the small beach house we had rented. Originally when built it had been only a few feet from the lake. But for many years the water had been diverted and the lake receded, leaving a grassy compound where the villagers brought their livestock to roam during the day. Jezebel's afternoon siesta was spent sitting under the car watching all this wild (to her) animal life. She felt safe there as most of the beasts were too big to get under the car with her. One day she was hemmed in for hours by baby bulls circling the car, poking their noses in the windows and rubbing against the tires. Another time she had been sitting on a stone wall when a friendly baby burro came over to rub noses. Jezebel didn't understand this gesture of international goodwill. She repelled him with a hiss and spit and ran for safety under the car. At night she had frogs to contend with. If we let her out for a stroll on the patio she'd spend all the time batting the frogs as they hopped on the tiles and down the steps to hide in the grass. One day she stalked a scorpion, but we got to the kill before she did!

By the time we left Lake de Chapala Jezebel had acquired the savoir faire of the experienced, well-traveled cat. She sniffed the overnight stops on the way home as a mere routine approval. She became accustomed to having an epicurean evening meal. She knew we were very adept by now at begging pieces of meat or chicken from the dining rooms and carrying them back to her. Sometimes, before we re-crossed the border, we'd even get into the kitchens to admire the long brick stoves built in the middle of the kitchen

with individual charcoal fires on all sides, and we'd exclaim over the native hammered copper skillets, and we'd just casually mention our starving "gatita." The novelty of a traveling white cat usually resulted in Jezebel's eating better than we did

We arrived at U. S. Customs and presented Jezebel and her papers. They were all in order. She was very patient with us. Our's weren't, quite. We hadn't been vaccinated. But she waited for us with an "I told you so" expression on her little white face.

When we got home she started off sniffing the house all over again, probably thinking it was just another one night stand. But when the rest of our menagerie came back from their vacation homes she settled down into her old habits and apparently forgot all about the trip.

We didn't. We haven't stopped talking of it yet. In fact, almost every day we're explaining to some curious stranger why we have "La Gatita" printed in gold letters on our car doors.

Spring litters are on the way at The Dark Gauntlets

Kittens due in March from DBL. CH. DARK GAUNTLETS DIMITY, cpf

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The Back Fence . . .

May we point out that this great old world is getting a wiser point of view. Time was when it was conceded that a boy's best friend may have been his mother, but a man's best friend was his dog. This, my friends, is propaganda, and the Illinois State Veterinary Association admitted that there is strong evidence that the feline is leaving the canine in the background when it comes to desirability as a pet.

The veterinarians, natch, are being more than neutral but hesitantly announce, with an "off the record" air, that the number of pet cats is growing and some of the more courageous ones conclude that a cat may be a better pet than a dog. More easily housebroken; needs no daily exercise; less excitable; more agile, far less likely to break bones—all this and you can hide him from the landlord far more easily.

They find that surgery is making cats even more popular. No more sighing, wailing, frustrated spinsters and no more battered, torn, and vocal warriors to wear on near-to-breaking-point nerves.

Dr. A. Grant Misener, past president of the association and owner of an animal hospital says the nineteen years spanning his beginning as a veterinarian until now have changed the proportion among his patients from 25 per cent cats and 75 per cent dogs to 35/65 with the gap closing every year.

Dr. Bone, D.V.M., finds that more people have two cats than have two dogs. He finds that it is relaxing to watch two cats playing. His mother had a cat that could walk along a shelf loaded with knickknacks without disturbing a one. With an expressive hand gesture he added, "But a dog there—".

Another veterinarian noted that dogs reflect the characteristics of their owners—nervous or calm, upset or tranquil, apprehensive or philosophical. Cats, on the other hand, are not given to extremes of activity. Left alone, they'll behave where a spoiled dog would chew up the pillow and leave physical evidence of his displeasure.

And which do veterinarians prefer, cats or dogs?

"A veterinarian can't say. But I will say I find cats easier to handle."

Our thanks to the Chicago Sun-Times for devoting so much black ink and space to this very timely article.

The letters-to-the-editor page in the Philadelphia Bulletin reprinted a lady's message in which she quoted Alexandre Dumas's opinion:

"Rather than a dog, I would choose a cat. It has for me the manners essential to social relations. At first, in its early youth, it possesses all the graces, suppleness, unexpectedness by which the most exacting artistic fancy can be amused! It is adroit, it always knows where it is. Prudent unto caution, it goes everywhere, it examines

without soiling, breaking nothing; it is in itself a warmth and a caress; it has not a snout, but a mouth—and what a mouth! It is discreet and of fastidious cleanliness. It cannot be enslayed.

"It is a dignified, proud, disdainful animal that hides its love affairs in the shadows. It defies advances, tolerates no insults, abandons the house in which it is not treated according to its merits.

"In short, truly an aristocrat in type and origin."

A lovely tribute to a friend from a master of feeling and words.

The Hartford, Conn., *Times* has a story that proves the cat is also a gracious creature—the perfect host—the genial patron.

Blackie, the family cat of the George Parsons of Hartford, allows a new found acquaintance the freedom of the house even unto the heights of giving up his bed on several occasions.

The tale grows more unbelievable when you read that this Johnnie-come-lately is an opossum. He makes his nightly waddle from the barn to the porch to dine with the two cats of the house. Some evenings when the meal is "just right" he adopts the Roman manner of resting after the exhausting chore of chewing and swallowing . . . and always in the cats' bed. But gentlemen all, the guest is always right.

The talented M. Dumas may not have used the word "charm" in his description, but the Atlanta, Georgia, *Journal* tells of Tiger, the most popular cat in the city.

She has a quiet appreciation for her public, but no obeisance. She is strongly individualistic, accounting for some of her charm.

Tiger lives among the mad rush of cars at the Biltmore Hotel Garage on Sixth Street. She has lived there for two years and not once has she been in danger of being run over.

The sound of a motor causes her to immediately stop whatever pursuit she is indulging to check on where the noise is heading.

People have driven miles out of their way to sit by Tiger in gracious mother-hood and admire her kits. Guests in the Hotel call regularly to ask about her. Stenographers from nearby offices make trips to see the latest brood. And the postman at Christmas time allots a certain amount of his load to cards addressed to her.

Two years ago the garage cat was a calico cat—nothing special to anyone. One day she crept into the office lugging a sick, dilapidated kitten. It was Tiger.

Somehow, this little waif stole everyone's heart. The other day a man from Alabama drove in, stepped from the car and asked, "Where's Tiger?" before he even asked for a room.

In her two years at the garage, Tiger has twenty-four kittens and there's never

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been any trouble finding homes for her offspring. There aren't enough to go around.

Would that this could happen to every furry little kitten born.—J.L.

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